

third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

So the bill (H.R. 1655), as amended, was deemed read a third time and passed.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I move the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House, and that the Chair be authorized to appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to, and the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. MACK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. ROBB, and, from the Committee on Armed Services, Mr. THURMOND and Mr. NUNN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

DESIGNATING "NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY"

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 178, submitted earlier today by Senator PRESSLER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 178) designating the second Sunday in October of 1995 as National Children's Day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, all parents understand the pride and joy we have in our children. They are the apple of our eyes, our most precious resource, our future, and our hope. Today I rise with many of my colleagues to submit a bipartisan resolution declaring the second Sunday in October, "National Children's Day." National Children's Day is about hope—the hopes we have for children and the hope they should have for themselves.

We live in a rapidly changing world—a world of difficulties and uncertainties for many children. Many children growing up today must overcome tremendous obstacles and challenges, such as drug and alcohol abuse, illiteracy, poverty, pregnancy, physical abuse, absentee parents, and neighborhood violence. How does the future appear for children who do not have a supportive, nurturing environment? To some, the future is uncertain and dark. According to the Children's Defense Fund, 15.7 million children lived in poverty in 1993 and every 98 minutes a child was killed in 1992.

Children need nurturing, guidance, time, understanding and the reassurance of a childhood and hope in their future. The fortunate children receive all the love and support they need.

However, many children do not receive the appreciation they deserve. Children are our most precious human resource, for they hold our future in their hands, hearts, and minds.

Mr. President, you may be interested to learn that the first Children's Day was celebrated on the second Sunday in October 46 years ago on the campus of Notre Dame University. Dr. Patrick McCusker and his wife Mary decided to honor not only their children but children throughout the country. This year marks the 6th year a Senate resolution has commemorated this traditional day.

The intent of National Children's Day has not changed. National Children's Day assures children, as a Nation, that we will be here for them. As a Nation, we will try our best to provide for them, look out for them, and to give them the best our Nation can. National Children's Day reaffirms, that we will keep our children in mind. National Children's Day is a celebration of America's hope in the children of today and tomorrow.

Mr. COATS. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 178) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 178

Whereas the people of the United States should celebrate children as the most valuable asset of the Nation;

Whereas the children represent the future, hope, and inspiration of the United States;

Whereas the children of the United States should be allowed to feel that their ideas and dreams will be respected because adults in the United States take time to listen;

Whereas many children of the United States face crises of grave proportions, especially as they enter adolescent years;

Whereas it is important for parents to spend time listening to their children on a daily basis;

Whereas modern societal and economic demands often pull the family apart;

Whereas encouragement should be given to families to set aside a special time for all family members to engage together in family activities;

Whereas adults in the United States should have an opportunity to reminisce on their youth to recapture some of the fresh insight, innocence, and dreams that they may have lost through the years;

Whereas the designation of a day to commemorate the children of the United States will provide an opportunity to emphasize to children the importance of developing an ability to make the choices necessary to distance themselves from impropriety and to contribute to their communities;

Whereas the designation of a day to commemorate the children of the Nation will emphasize to the people of the United States the importance of the role of the child within the family and society;

Whereas the people of the United States should emphasize to children the importance

of family life, education, and spiritual qualities; and

Whereas children are the responsibility of all Americans, thus everyone should celebrate the children of the United States, whose questions, laughter, and tears are important to the existence of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the second Sunday in October of 1995 as "National Children's Day" and requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS AND CLOSING COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to consideration of Senate Resolution 179, submitted earlier today by Senator THURMOND.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 179) concerning a joint meeting of Congress and the closing of the commemorations for the fiftieth anniversary of World War II.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to submit, along with 34 of my colleagues, a resolution which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

September 2d of this year marked this 50th anniversary. World War II changed the face of the world like no other in our history. We owe this distinction to our veterans, their families, and those who served on the home front to support the war effort. Americans made tremendous sacrifices to protect the ideals of freedom and democracy. Their accomplishments should not be forgotten. Many American men and women answered the call of their country, left their homes and jobs, and boldly entered the war. Civilians on the home front performed the impossible by manufacturing goods at a rate that astonished the world. Our country joined together to ration food and grow victory gardens which aided the war effort. American farmers stepped forward and grew enough produce to support the allied forces.

The troops overseas offered the ultimate sacrifice as they fought in the deserts of North Africa, on the streets of European cities, under the Atlantic Ocean, and on the islands of the Pacific. The Americans that served and died gave the greatest honor possible to their families and their country. We should honor these veterans to show that we are a grateful nation.

Our support of this resolution sends a clear message to all Americans. It is a reminder to them that we will not forget those that answered the call of